INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/ 3/04970

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C01B7/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or	or to both national classification and IPC
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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) $IPC\ 7\ C01B$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Х	US 2 542 961 A (CHERNIAVSKY ALEXANDER J ET AL) 20 February 1951 (1951-02-20) column 7, line 55 -column 8, line 22 figure	1-5
X	US 5 639 436 A (BENSON SIDNEY W ET AL) 17 June 1997 (1997-06-17) column 1, line 34 -column 2, line 4 column 2, line 34 - line 47 column 3, line 1 -column 4, line 22 figure 3	1-5,8,9
X	US 3 201 201 A (DIJK CHRISTIAAN P VAN ET AL) 17 August 1965 (1965-08-17) column 6, line 4 - line 14 figure	1-4

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.	
Special categories of cited documents: A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"T" tater document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled	
'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	in the art. '&' document member of the same patent family	
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report	
26 August 2003	16/09/2003	
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,	Authorized officer Harf-Bapin, E	
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C/C		03/049/0				
	C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No.					
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X	GB 1 046 313 A (SHELL INT RESEARCH) 19 October 1966 (1966-10-19) cited in the application page 2, line 26 - line 62	1,3-6				
X	US 4 828 815 A (KIYOURA TADAMITSU ET AL) 9 May 1989 (1989-05-09) column 2, line 8 - line 20	1,3-5				

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